

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2003

BLM-Eastern Flakes

Guardians of the Past — Stewards for the Future



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR • Bureau of Land Management



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Main cover photo: Jupiter Inlet Natural Area in Florida today.

Inset photo, lower right: Jupiter Inlet Natural Area in Florida in 2000.

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Welcome to BLM-Eastern States

BLM-Eastern States



This has been a busy year for all of us at BLM-Eastern States. We have achieved a variety of important goals as we continue with our vision as “Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future.” I am very proud of the hard

work of our employees, partners, and volunteers, who offer their talents, time, dedication, and commitment to serve the American public.

With almost two-thirds of the country’s population and elected congressional officials in the East, BLM-Eastern States plays an increasingly vital role in showcasing the Bureau of Land Management’s multiple-use management of the public lands and resources. Through our diverse on-the-ground resource management, we continually strive to enhance the quality of life of the people we serve.

One of the highlights of this year was the formal opening of the 800-acre Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). The SRMA offers a scenic, natural setting with some spectacular opportunities to observe various wildlife and plant life near Washington, DC—opportunities not easily found so close to a large metropolitan area.

Another highlight was that the members of the Jupiter Inlet Working Group received the BLM

Director’s Four Cs Award for their extraordinary contributions to conservation through consultation, cooperation, and communication. Their work included habitat restoration, historical preservation, and recreational facility development at the Jupiter Inlet Natural Area in Florida. The group is made up of representatives from the BLM-Eastern States Jackson Field Office, the Town of Jupiter, the Village of Tequesta, Palm Beach County, the U.S. Coast Guard, Jupiter High School, and the Loxahatchee River Historical Society.

This year we also presented patents for the transfer of ownership of the Big Sable Point Lighthouse, Pointe Aux Barques Lighthouse, and Grand Traverse Lighthouse to the State of Michigan. In addition, we presented 11 fee patents for transfer of State-owned land in Minnesota to the White Earth Band of Chippewa. Actions such as these allow us to forge strong partnerships involving other Federal and local agencies, groups, and communities in the management of our many important programs. And through partnerships, we have developed programs to reach out to our youth so they will learn at an early age the importance of taking care of our public lands and resources.

In fiscal year 2004, we look forward to new challenges and opportunities and to a bright future as “Guardians of the Past—Stewards for the Future.”

A stylized, dotted-line signature of Michael D. Nedd.

Michael D. Nedd, BLM-Eastern States Director



BLM-Eastern States area of jurisdiction.

History, Mission, and Vision

In 1946, the Grazing Service merged with the General Land Office (GLO) to form the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The BLM was charged with managing the Nation's Public Domain—the lands held in Federal ownership for the benefit of the American people. Eastern States Land Office (ESLO) carried on the GLO business of providing cadastral survey records and land title information from BLM's headquarters office in Washington, DC. By 1954, the BLM had taken on Federal onshore minerals responsibilities, resulting in greater activity in the Eastern States. More and more natural-resource-related challenges emerged in the East, and soon the ESLO began to operate in the same manner as BLM offices in the Western States, where most of the public land is located.

The ESLO officially became BLM-Eastern States on April 8, 1980. Since then, we have played a central role in fostering the management and conservation of public lands and resources spanning the 31 States east of and bordering on the Mississippi River for present and future generations. This area encompasses 30,000 surface acres of public lands and more than 39 million acres of subsurface Federal mineral estate. The surface acreage we manage for the American public is important for recreation and wise resource use, especially because of its location in the highly populated East. We continually seek input from the public and forge new partnerships to ensure that these lands and resources are managed effectively.

BLM-Eastern States



BLM-Eastern States Executive Leadership Team

State Director: Michael Nedd

Associate State Director: Ann Aldrich

Jackson, Mississippi, Field Manager: Bruce Dawson

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Field Manager: Jim Dryden

Lower Potomac Field Station Manager: Gary Cooper

Chief, External Affairs: Terry Lewis

Deputy State Director for Resources, Planning, Use, and Protection: Vacant

Acting Deputy State Director for Business Resources: Ruth Welch

Deputy State Director for Cadastral Survey and GLO Records Automation: Stephen Douglas

Program Accomplishments

Energy and Mineral Resources

The energy and mineral resources program is one of the largest programs managed by BLM-Eastern States. We manage about 39 million acres of mineral estate, including substantial leasing for oil and gas, and oversee environmentally sound fluid and solid mineral development.



Quarterly competitive oil and gas sales are held at the BLM-Eastern States office in Springfield, Virginia.

BLM-Eastern States' oil and gas program produces significant revenues that are shared with the States from which those revenues are generated. In 2003, we administered 3,615 Federal mineral leases covering more than 2 million acres in 14 of the 31 Eastern States. In addition we:

- Approved 44 applications for drilling permits.
- Conducted 665 compliance inspections of drilling and production activities on leases in the States of Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- Processed 17 reservoir management drainage cases to resolve the loss of lateral oil and gas reserves to private wells.
- Approved 19 oil and gas agreements.
- Processed 46 environmental assessments for expressions of leasing interest.
- Offered 260 parcels for oil and gas leases covering 258,924 acres in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio, and West Virginia.
- Received more than \$1,057,730 from sales of oil and gas leases.



A drill operates at a dual-lateral-horizontal oil and gas well in the Kisatchie National Forest in central Louisiana.



- Plugged 17 orphan wells in cooperation with the State of Mississippi.
- Implemented geographic information system (GIS) techniques for drainage review and oil and gas management.

The BLM-Eastern States Milwaukee Field Office (MFO), in collaboration with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, continued to assist the Seneca Nation of Indians in conducting an inventory of existing gas wells located on its Cattaraugus Reservation in New York. The inventory of wells will be an integral part of a comprehensive energy plan the Seneca Nation of Indians is developing for its lands in western New York. The MFO worked with the Seneca's Utility and Geographic Information Departments to locate and gather information on 44 wells.



Tim Abing (right), a petroleum engineer for BLM-Eastern States, and Darwin Huff, a technician for the Seneca Nation of Indians' Utility Department, check the location of gas wells on the Cattaraugus Reservation in western New York. The BLM plays an important role in carrying out the Department of the Interior's Indian trust responsibilities.

BLM-Eastern States oversees leases of Federal coal in the East. This year, we administered 13 coal leases covering more than 15,000 acres in the States of Alabama, Kentucky, and West Virginia. In addition, we:

- Processed five coal lease applications in the States of Alabama and Kentucky.
- Performed six compliance inspections and production verification activities.
- Processed 1 coal exploration lease for 7,625 acres located on the East Lynn Lake, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project in Wayne County, West Virginia.

- Inventoried for all aquatic and upland special status species on a 2,887-acre area identified for coal leasing in Alabama.

In 2003, we administered 120 solid mineral leases for more than 75,000 acres in the States of Arkansas, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and Virginia. We also:

- Issued 21 prospecting permit applications for copper, gold, iron, lead, nickel, wavelite, zinc, and other associated minerals.
- Performed 202 compliance inspections and production verification activities.
- Completed 21 mineral reports (prospecting permit applications, color-of-title, and minerals conveyance under section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976) to support activities of other agencies (U.S. Forest Service, General Services Administration, and Bureau of Indian Affairs).
- Processed 28 post-lease applications.
- Processed 1 sand application in Wexford County, Michigan, for 405 acres.
- Developed requirements for a Boy Scout merit badge in geology and minerals.
- Presented "Programs on Rocks and Minerals and How We Use Them" at multiple field day events and in classrooms, reaching over 900 students and teachers.

In addition, we administered 27 mining claims in the States of Arkansas and Florida.



The Fletcher Mine Mill is a lead-zinc ore processing facility located on private land within the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri.

Mineral Revenues Distributed to States and Total Mineral Revenues*

| | Mineral Revenues Distributed to States | Total Mineral Revenues |
|---------------|---|---------------------------|
| State | FY 2002 \$ | FY 2003 \$ |
| Alabama | 269,000 | 1,629,000 |
| Arkansas | 896,000 | 13,022,000 |
| Florida | 716,000 | 754,000 |
| Illinois | 73,000 | 144,000 |
| Indiana | -- | 14,000 |
| Kentucky | 31,000 | 304,000 |
| Louisiana | 730,000 | 11,249,000 |
| Maryland | -- | 13,000 |
| Michigan | 250,000 | 1,572,000 |
| Minnesota | 17,000 | 64,000 |
| Mississippi | 382,000 | 2,966,000 |
| Missouri | 604,000 | 1,823,000 |
| Ohio | 261,000 | 398,000 |
| Pennsylvania | 17,000 | 56,000 |
| Virginia | 114,000 | 152,000 |
| West Virginia | 195,000 | 1,330,000 |
| Total | 4,555,000 | 35,490,000 |

* Data in this table is the most current available at time of printing. Minerals Management Service figures are estimated for the fiscal year 2002 data and preliminary for the fiscal year 2003 data.

Wildland Fire

BLM-Eastern States helps improve the quality of life for the communities we serve by safeguarding lives, property, and assets using fuels reduction methods and providing "Firewise" information to over 2,000 households in 7 communities in the South.

The Jackson, Mississippi, Interagency Hotshot Crew (IHC), BLM's only Type 1 elite wildland firefighting crew east of the Mississippi River, provided support at fires in Idaho, Montana, Utah, and Washington. The crew assisted with

efforts to recover wreckage from the Space Shuttle Columbia in Texas and with cleanup efforts in Virginia in the wake of Hurricane Isabel. In 2003, the crew continued their partnership with National Wildlife Refuges in the Southeast to conduct prescribed burns on approximately 35,000 acres.



Jackson Interagency Hotshot Crew members suppress a fire during the summer fire season.

The 19-member Jackson IHC also provided assistance to the community of Swan Valley, Montana, about 100 miles south of Glacier National Park, in early August. The crew was assigned to the toughest section of the fire line, several miles into the Mission Mountains Wilderness, where no bulldozers or other mechanized equipment are allowed unless authorized by Congress; thus, the crew dug all fire lines using hand tools.



Lamar Liddell, superintendent of the Jackson Interagency Hotshot Crew and a member of BLM's elite Honor Guard, participated in President George W. Bush's rollout of the Healthy Forest Initiative on the White House lawn.



Wild Horse and Burro Adoption and Compliance

BLM-Eastern States' wild horse and burro adoption program is the largest in the Bureau. This year, we arranged for the adoption of 2,265 animals to good homes within our 31-State area of jurisdiction, which was 37 percent of the total number of animals adopted bureauwide. The wild horse and burro adoption Web site at www.adoptahorse.blm.gov received 338,000 hits, resulting in the placement of 236 animals. We completed 1,908 compliance inspections of untitled animals and issued 2,292 titles for wild horses and burros. Law enforcement personnel conducted 100 adoption and compliance investigations.



This year, BLM-Eastern States, BLM's primary adoption and compliance office, helped to find good homes for over 2,200 horses and burros in the East.

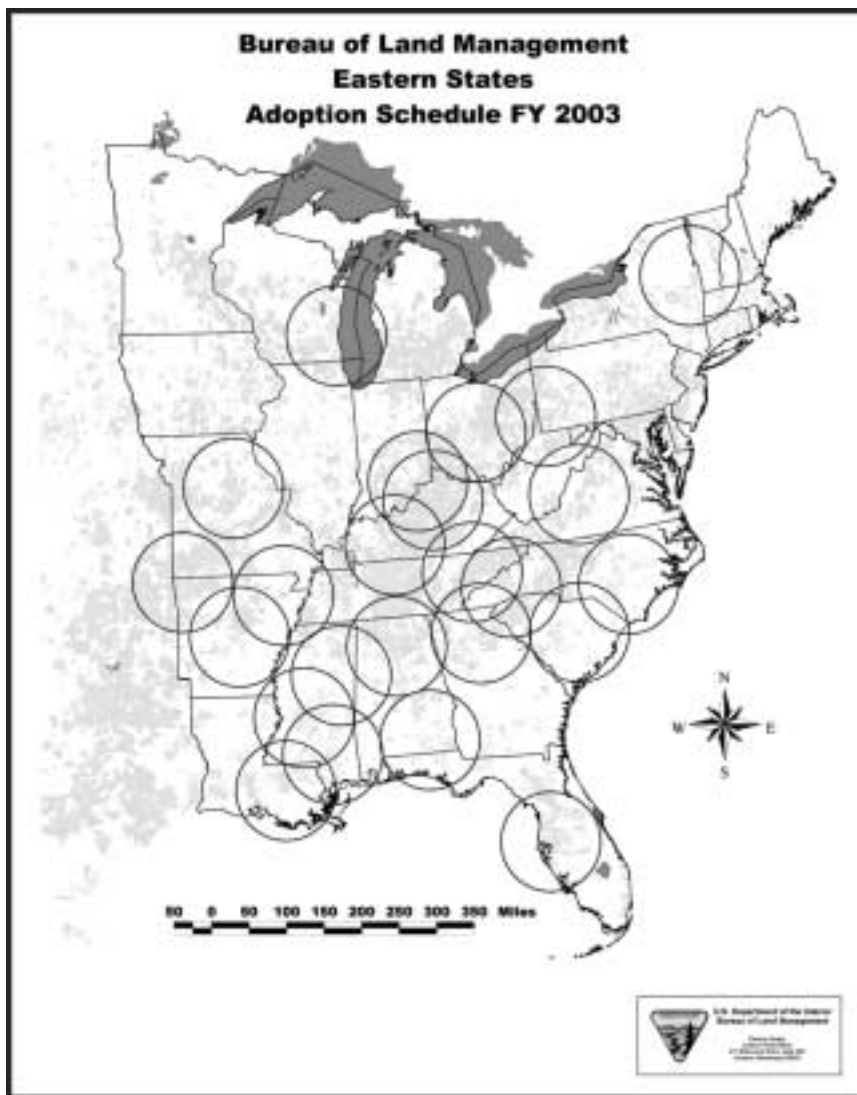
We promoted the wild horse and burro adoption program at regional and national expos, special equine events, and trade shows such as the Mississippi State Championship Horse Show, Equine Affaires in Massachusetts and Ohio, Midwest Horse Fair in Wisconsin,

Breyerfest 2003 at the Kentucky Horse Park, and Horse World Expo in Maryland. We fostered partnerships with private groups and organizations, including the Kentucky Horse Park Mustang Troop and the Florida Girl Scouts. BLM-Eastern States also collaborated with Breyer Animal Creations to facilitate an \$11,000 donation to the National Wild Horse and Burro Foundation. The donation came from the proceeds of the sale of a wild horse model, Nevada Joe Sterling, in Tractor Supply Stores.



Jenna Greenwood rides her adopted wild horse "Lady" bareback at the Equine Affaire in Columbus, Ohio.

In 2003, BLM-Eastern States completed and distributed a public service announcement, with narrative and music donated by country music stars Montgomery Gentry, resulting in nearly \$100,000 of free advertising. Additionally, we wrote an article published in *ArcNews*, a magazine with a readership of over 350,000, on the Bureau's use of GIS software as a modeling tool to identify potential wild horse and burro adoption sites. The article was distributed to 12,000 people from 135 countries at the ESRI International User Conference.



BLM-Eastern States uses Geographic Information System (GIS) software to identify markets where wild horse and burro adoptions would have the highest potential for success without excessive overlap. The circles on this map represent a 100-mile radius of marketing areas for each adoption conducted in BLM-Eastern States during fiscal year 2003. Shaded areas are specifically targeted for marketing prior to each adoption and have proven to have good adoption potential based on a GIS marketing model developed by BLM-Eastern States Jackson Field Office.

BLM-Eastern States

Natural Resources

BLM-Eastern States manages a variety of natural, cultural, and heritage resources on widely scattered tracts of public lands. Some of these resources are truly outstanding, and we are proud to be entrusted with the care of these “jewels.”

Jupiter Inlet Natural Area, Florida

The Jupiter Inlet Natural Area is virtually an island of sand, pine forest, and oak scrub that surrounds the historic Jupiter Lighthouse in the thriving communities of Jupiter and Tequesta,

Florida. In 2003, the Jupiter Inlet Working Group, made up of representatives from the Town of Jupiter, the Village of Tequesta, Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management, the U.S. Coast Guard, Jupiter High School Environmental Research and Field Studies Academy, the Loxahatchee River Historical Society, and the BLM-Eastern States Jackson Field Office, received the BLM Director's Four Cs Award, which recognizes significant contributions in conserving our country's natural resources. The Four Cs Award is the highest honor given by the BLM, and the Jupiter Inlet Working Group is the first to receive such an honor in the entire Eastern United States.



BLM-Eastern States is a member of the Jupiter Inlet Working Group, which received the BLM Director's Four Cs Award for work performed at Jupiter Inlet Natural Area in Florida. Pictured with the group are BLM Deputy Director Fran Cherry (fourth from right) and BLM-Eastern States Director Mike Nedd (third from right).

BLM-Eastern States continued its efforts to improve and enhance the Jupiter Inlet Natural Area by monitoring 5 acres of upland Florida scrub following a prescribed burn and 2 acres of newly restored tidal wetlands. We also continued working with partners, such as Palm Beach County, to focus on removal of invasive plants, particularly in previous burn areas. Palm Beach County's Department of Environmental Resources Management designed and built an award winning tidal lagoon and wetland, which was cofunded by the South Florida Water Management District and the Fish and Wildlife Foundation. They have removed thousands of invasive Australian pine and Brazilian pepper trees and conducted annual sweeps to keep exotic invasive plants under control.

Through an assistance agreement, BLM-Eastern States is working with the Jupiter High School Environmental Research and Field Studies Academy to fully establish Jupiter Inlet Natural Area as an outdoor classroom for the Academy. Students have established long-term monitoring plots in the prescribed burn areas and in the new wetland, where they use custom-designed nets to sample fish species entering and leaving the new tidal wetlands. Neal White, a teacher at the Academy, won BLM's 2003 "Making a Difference" National Volunteer Award for his efforts at the Jupiter Inlet Natural Area.

The Town of Jupiter has renovated Lighthouse Park, expanding and improving its recreational facilities, at a cost of \$750,000. The Town of Jupiter and the Loxahatchee River Historical Society have also collaborated on an \$855,000 restoration project to return the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse to mint condition.

Lake Vermilion, Minnesota

Lake Vermilion is one of the largest lakes in northeastern Minnesota, covering some 40,000 acres. There are hundreds of bays and inlets, with 1,200 miles of shoreline, and more than 365 islands. Seventy of these islands are small, widely scattered areas of public land where visitors can enjoy picnicking and birdwatching. The lake is home to bald eagles, loons, ospreys, and a variety of other wildlife and fish, including



A volunteer with the Island Stewardship program enjoys boating among the public islands at Lake Vermilion, Minnesota, where fishing is the most popular form of recreation.

deer, moose, minks, otters, wolves, walleyes, bass, bluegills, and muskellunges (muskies).

BLM-Eastern States renewed an assistance agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for monitoring 16 public islands and implementing an Island Stewardship Program with lake associations. These activities help encourage ethical use of public island resources, maintain litter free islands, and provide feedback concerning visitor and wildlife use of several Lake Vermilion islands. This year, BLM-Eastern States maintained 6 recreation sites; monitored terrestrial habitat on 8 acres; and oversaw the completion of archaeological surveys for 62 islands, where over 18 new archaeological sites were discovered on public lands.



A bald eagle perches on a tree at one of 70 public islands located in Lake Vermilion, one of the largest lakes in Minnesota.

Lathrop Bayou, Florida

Lathrop Bayou is a 189-acre Public Domain tract in Bay County, Florida, that retains much of the natural wet flatwoods character that has been lost throughout Bay and Gulf Counties as the area has been converted to commercial slash pine plantations. The abundance of special status plants, the presence of Bay County's only red-cockaded woodpecker colony, and the uninterrupted nesting of bald eagles at the site since the early 1990's illustrate the high quality of the habitat.

This year, BLM-Eastern States inventoried plants and wildlife on all 189 acres. We completed the



Lathrop Bayou's longleaf pines, although small, average well over 100 years of age and provide ideal red-cockaded woodpecker habitat.

Lathrop Bayou Habitat Management Plan with assistance from our public and private partners, St. Joe Timberland Company, Genevot Group, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The plan addresses 12 special status plants, bald eagles, and red-cockaded woodpeckers, which are on the Federal list of endangered species; prescribed burns; and management of an exceptionally diverse example of longleaf/slash pine flatwoods. We also inventoried the red-cockaded woodpecker cluster; banded all birds, including the young of the year; and mapped, measured, and marked all 22 cavity trees. In addition, we signed a memorandum of understanding with our partners to collaborate on the management of over 2,000 acres of relict longleaf pine and special status species at Lathrop Bayou and nearby Wetappo Creek, owned by the St. Joe Timberland Company.



Douglas Point in Charles County, Maryland, one of the last remaining undeveloped tracts along the Potomac River near fast-growing Washington, DC, offers outstanding recreation, wildlife habitat, and cultural resources.

Lower Potomac Properties (Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area, Virginia, and Douglas Point, Maryland)

The Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) is an 800-acre area located 20 miles south of Washington, DC, in suburban Virginia. In January 2003, BLM-Eastern States completed the *Meadowood Farm Planning Analysis Environmental Assessment*. To prepare the site for public use, we assessed and mapped miles of roads, traillike pathways, and stream and riparian areas. On April 29, we opened the 1.2-mile Wood Thrush Trail. This year, over 1,200 visitors experienced a variety of natural resource settings and opportunities to view rare wildlife, including bald eagles. BLM-Eastern States monitored a population of bald eagles in the SRMA and conducted archaeological and historical site surveys for a proposed waterline, a new equestrian trail, bridge construction, and a wild horse and burro adoption area. In addition, we held two cleanups of the western portion of the SRMA in partnership with the Friends of Meadowood, local Lions Club, and Fairfax County Sheriff's Office. We also completed a cleanup of asbestos

at an abandoned residence. We continue to manage a special recreation permit for private horse boarding at the SRMA.

Douglas Point, a 1,270-acre tract along the Potomac River in Charles County, Maryland, is managed cooperatively by BLM-Eastern States and the State of Maryland. The area offers a variety of public recreation opportunities such as hiking and seasonal hunting, as well as many cultural and natural resources, from sunken World War I era ships to fossils from the Paleocene epoch about 58 million years ago. Wildlife is abundant and includes bald eagles, ospreys, a variety of nesting waterfowl, deer, raccoons, muskrats, beavers, and foxes. This year, we inventoried over 900 acres and



Students learn how to construct bird houses at the Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area in Virginia.



conducted archaeological and historical site monitoring in both the Meadowood SRMA and Douglas Point areas. We participated in the annual Potomac River cleanup, in partnership with Maryland's Department of Natural Resources and Charles County. In August 2003, we completed the *Lower Potomac River Draft Coordinated Management Plan*, which was prepared cooperatively with the State of Maryland, to determine levels of use for BLM and State lands in Charles County, Maryland.

Lighthouse Properties

BLM-Eastern States has been actively processing withdrawal relinquishments for U.S. Coast Guard properties around the Great Lakes and the State of Florida. These properties were originally set aside through Executive order for lighthouse purposes and are no longer needed. Our overall goal is to find other public entities (Federal, State, local, or nonprofit groups) that would be interested in long-term management of the parcels and associated lighthouses. The properties are transferred either through the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (R&PP) or

via a public land order to another Federal agency. The U.S. Coast Guard has relinquished a total of 32 lighthouse properties, comprised of 35 individual parcels, to BLM-Eastern States.

In fiscal year 2003, we celebrated the transfer of ownership of three historic lighthouse properties to the State of Michigan through the R&PP Act. In November 2002, the Big Sable Point Lighthouse and associated 57.5 acres of public land were transferred to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). This was the first lighthouse in the Great Lakes region to be patented through the R&PP Act. A second lighthouse property, Pointe Aux Barques, and the last remaining 0.47 acres were transferred to Huron County in Michigan, at a ceremony held in June 2003. And in September 2003, at Leelanau State Park, BLM-Eastern States Director Mike Nedd signed the patent transferring the Grand Traverse Lighthouse and associated 16.37 acres to Michigan's DNR Director K.L. Cool. BLM's Deputy Director, Fran Cherry, and representatives from the U.S. Coast Guard, Michigan DNR, and Grand Traverse Museum also attended the ceremony.



BLM's Deputy Director Fran Cherry (second from right) participated in the Grand Traverse Lighthouse ceremony, in which the lighthouse and 16.37 acres were transferred to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Others in attendance included (from left) DNR Director K.L. Cool, Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum President Sterling Henderson, and U.S. Coast Guard Captain Scott Gordon.

BLM-Eastern States



Lands and Realty

Through our lands and realty program, we provide for public land identification, disposal, and adjustments and thousands of other realty actions. In 2003, in addition to transferring three lighthouse properties to the State of Michigan, BLM-Eastern States:

- Completed the transfer of approximately 645 acres associated with the White Earth Reservation Land Settlement Act of 1985 on behalf of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- Closed 81 outstanding lands cases.
- Issued one disclaimer of interest for 471 acres in Monona County, Iowa.
- Issued 42 patents to clear title to 561 acres in the States of Alabama, Florida, and Mississippi.
- Disposed of 1,354 acres of Public Domain land in the States of Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin.
- Continued work on a resource management plan for Mississippi and Alabama to help guide land management and mineral leasing decisions.
- Conveyed 62 acres of Federal mineral interest in the States of Georgia, Michigan, South Carolina, and Wisconsin.
- Issued 24 fee patents, transferring title of 1,259.24 acres out of Federal ownership to the White Earth Band of Chippewa in Minnesota.



Nate Felton, a senior realty specialist at BLM-Eastern States, reviews an Arkansas swamp selection tract book for a lands case.

Cadastral Survey

BLM-Eastern States continued to uphold the Secretary of the Interior's survey responsibilities to determine the boundaries of Federal public lands within our 31-State area of jurisdiction, with emphasis on meeting our American Indian trust responsibilities and Federal obligations to tribal governments in the East. We also fulfilled Secretarial responsibilities for the care and maintenance of duplicate copies of plats and field notes for the Western States.



Cadastral survey technician Bruce Miner uses global positioning system software to perform an official survey on Federal land in the East.

This year, we provided survey services to the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Maine, Minnesota, and Wisconsin; Department of Justice in New York; National Park Service in the Washington, DC, area; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Missouri; and U.S. Forest Service in Arkansas. Survey crews:

- Completed 335 miles of field surveys.
- Set 560 monuments.

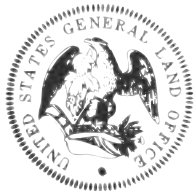
- Approved 8 surveys amounting to 271 platted miles and 437 monuments.
- Filed 624 western cadastral survey plats and field notes.
- Reopened the Ozark National Forest Project Office in Clarksville, Arkansas, in the summer of 2003 to perform surveys for the U.S. Forest Service.
- Continued in-house collection of township data through the Geographic Coordinate Data Base (GCDB) in the State of Mississippi and provided GCDB quality control on township data collected in partnership with the Superior National Forest in Minnesota and the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri.
- Conducted Public Land Survey System history training seminars for professional surveying associations in Alabama and Florida.

In 2003, we surveyed lands for individual tribes as follows:

- 31 miles of survey for the Passamaquoddy Tribe and Penobscot Indian Nation in Maine.
- 50 miles of survey for the White Earth Band of Chippewa in Minnesota.
- 2 miles of survey for the Narragansett Indian Tribe in Rhode Island.
- 160 miles of survey for the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa in Wisconsin.
- 7 miles of survey for the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa in Wisconsin.

General Land Office Records

BLM-Eastern States is the custodian of more than 9 million historic land title records from



Historic land title records are available through the BLM-Eastern States General Land Office Web site at www.glorerecords.blm.gov.

the Public Domain States dating back to 1787. Through the General Land Office (GLO) Web site, we posted an additional 151,721 serialized land patent records online. Currently, there are 4.2 million land patent records online, including records from 30 Public Domain States: in the East—Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Ohio, and Wisconsin; in the West (post-1908)—Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

This year, the GLO Web site received nearly 38 million logons by more than 16 million users. The Web site was named one of the 101 best family history web sites in the August 2003 issue of Family Tree Magazine. The public can access the GLO Web site, free of charge, by visiting www.glorerecords.blm.gov.



The General Land Office merged with the Grazing Service in 1946 to form the Bureau of Land Management. Pictured are the Office of the Tomahawk and the General Land Office in White Earth, Minnesota. (Robert G. Beaulieu photo, Minnesota Historical Society)





Other Accomplishments

BLM-Eastern States

Partnerships

BLM-Eastern States is committed to Secretary Gale Norton's four Cs philosophy—consultation, cooperation, and communication—all in the service of conservation. In the East, we play a critical role in helping to make BLM a truly national public land management agency by making Americans more aware of their valuable lands and natural resources. We have also made great strides in our outreach efforts by forging strong partnerships and taking a proactive approach to involve States, counties, communities, and groups in public land management and increase awareness of BLM's important mission.

Some important partnering efforts we were involved in this year included:

- Studying a globally rare plant, Moore's delphinium, with the University of Arkansas. The largest known community of this plant is on BLM-administered land in Arkansas.
- Initiating a challenge-cost share project with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for a rattlesnake survey at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Mosquito Creek Lake Project in Ohio to facilitate an environmental analysis required for oil and gas drilling permits and assist with conservation of sensitive species.
- Holding four National Public Lands Day events, which involved potting over 9,500 mangroves, planting 350 mangroves, and removing trash and debris in Florida; cleaning up a 6-mile section of the Big Piney River in the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri; clearing trails and cutting trees downed by

Hurricane Isabel in Virginia; and working on a soil erosion project and landscaping in Wisconsin.

- Cosponsoring Pathways to Fishing, an event to teach children how to fish, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Jackson Bass Club, at LeFleur's Bluff State Park in Mississippi.
- Working with more than 20 agencies to provide a National Fishing Day event for local school groups at Constitution Gardens in Washington, DC, as part of the annual National Boating and Fishing Week.



Youngsters learn basic fishing techniques on National Fishing Day, an event cosponsored by BLM-Eastern States on the Mall at Constitution Gardens in Washington, DC.



- Collaborating with the Milwaukee Center for Independence; Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful, Inc.; Midtown Neighborhood Association; Greening Milwaukee; and City of Milwaukee Forestry Division to plant a Liberty Garden at Lynden Hill in honor of the victims of the September 11, 2001, tragedy.
- Collaborating with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Milwaukee County Parks to distribute approximately 300 *Invading Weeds* books and a weeds curriculum to reach nearly 30,000 middle and high school students each year.
- Participating in Jackson State University's Science Olympiad, where over 180 junior and senior high school students from central Mississippi and the Jackson, Mississippi, metropolitan area competed in 23 science events.
- Promoting BLM's *Project Archaeology: Intrigue of the Past* by working with the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse and Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center to create Web pages about the project and presenting workshops to 24 elementary school teachers in Jackson, Mississippi, to help them bring new ideas to their classrooms.

- Teaching thousands of people about BLM minerals, survey, and General Land Office records programs and promoting the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial celebration at Monticello, Virginia, and on the Mall in Washington, DC, with assistance from other Federal agencies.



Interior Secretary Gale Norton speaks to a large audience at Thomas Jefferson's home in Monticello, Virginia, during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial celebration kickoff.

- Developing 5 new partnerships, for a total of 58 partnerships, with the U.S. Attorney's Office in 5 Federal Judicial Districts within the BLM-Eastern States jurisdiction and conducting 16 law enforcement investigations for natural resource programs.



BLM-Eastern States External Affairs Chief Terry Lewis (center) talks to participants at the recent Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA) Conference held in Columbia, Missouri. BLM participates at OWAA conferences to actively promote BLM programs and share information with OWAA members.

Environmental Education and Outreach

BLM-Eastern States provides a variety of recreation, environmental educational, and outreach programs to help educate the American public and promote responsible environmental stewardship among youth. Most of these programs are implemented through partnerships. In fiscal year 2003, we:

- Hosted 120 students from local Virginia schools to teach them about the environment at the Meadowood SRMA.

- Taught students about BLM's wild horse and burro adoption program at the first week-long annual Equine Camp at Piney Woods School in Jackson, Mississippi.



Students learn canoe safety tips before going on the lake during the 11th Environmental Education Camp, which is part of the Piney Woods School Summer Enrichment Program, in Tishomingo, Mississippi.

- Worked with the Discovery World Museum and Milwaukee Public Schools to sponsor a geologist to introduce science careers to 6th through 9th grade girls.
- Partnered with the American Recreation Coalition, Toyota, and Disney during Great Outdoors Week at Anacostia Park to present environmental education activities, such as Leave No Trace and Pathways to Fishing, to 120 students from the Washington, DC, public schools and BLM-Eastern States' adopted school, Miner Elementary, also in Washington, DC.
- Portrayed "Sherlock Holmes" and "Wild Horse Annie" to thousands of school-age children throughout the State of Mississippi, giving them an opportunity to learn about rocks, minerals, and wild horses.

America's Outdoors

America's Outdoors is an interagency "one-stop" center for environmental education, urban conservation, and recreation information. It is located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This year, through America's Outdoors, BLM-Eastern States provided information to 1,000 visitors and customers; reached 1,200 attendees at the City of Milwaukee's annual Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show; and participated in the

Environmental Awareness Fair at Milwaukee's Public Museum. We also provided information on recreation opportunities and facilities on public lands at the Federal recreation Web site www.recreation.gov.



Martha Malik (left), public affairs specialist for BLM-Eastern States Milwaukee Field Office, and James Engstrom, geographic information specialist, review materials available at the America's Outdoors center.

Wonderful Outdoor World

The Wonderful Outdoor World (WOW) program encourages urban youth, ages 8-12, to participate in environmental education and traditional recreation activities such as camping, fishing, and hiking. In 2003, BLM-Eastern States partnered with WOW to hold 5 campouts in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, with 30 youngsters participating at each event. We also partnered with the Alexandria Seaport Foundation to provide local high school students and teachers with a novel, multiday environmental navigation on the Potomac River.



Wonderful Outdoor World participants enjoy hiking on the first public hiking trail, Wood Thrush Trail, at the Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area in Virginia.



Urban Tree House

BLM-Eastern States is a key partner in the Urban Tree House (UTH) programs in Washington, DC, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The UTH program is a unique partnership of governmental, nonprofit, and community organizations dedicated to delivering the message of public stewardship and resource conservation to urban youth.

This year's efforts included working with community organizations and summer camps in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area to provide environmental education and recreational experiences to over 30 children on a weekly basis. Other activities included beautification and cleanup efforts during the Kenilworth Water Lily Festival in Washington, DC, and an environmental education camp at Maryland's Camp Riverview. We provided environmental education programming to 1,575 young people throughout the Milwaukee metropolitan area through the Milwaukee Urban Tree House site, at local youth-serving organizations, and at Stewardship Days in Chicago, Illinois. We also participated in the Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup and the Lynden Hill Spring Fling events with the local Midtown Community Neighborhood Association, where nearly 100 volunteers participated in neighborhood beautification in the Milwaukee area.



Milwaukee's Urban Tree House partnered with the local Midtown Community Neighborhood Association to help with a beautification project during the Lynden Hill Spring Fling.

Volunteers

This year, in response to President George W. Bush's call for an increase in volunteerism in this country, volunteer assistance to BLM-Eastern States increased by 13 percent. Volunteers offered their time, talents, and resources to BLM-Eastern States offices, resulting in 23,161 donated hours at a value of \$383,083. Neal White, a volunteer for the Jackson Field Office, won BLM's National Volunteer Award in 2003 for his work at the Jupiter Inlet Natural Area.

Congressional and State Government Outreach

BLM-Eastern States contacted 147 congressional offices to meet with staff and present information about our activities in their Districts. We continued to support and maintain an active membership with the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC), an organization comprised of highly trained, State public land professionals, primarily in the Eastern United States. In November 2002, we signed a memorandum of understanding with the ELRC to formalize a framework of communication, cooperation, and consultation in the service of conservation for land and natural resources management.

Customer Service

In 2003, BLM-Eastern States maintained effective relations with customers, stakeholders, and partners. Additionally, we continued using online comment cards, accessible on all pages of our Web site at www.es.blm.gov, and provided new comment cards to wild horse and burro, oil and gas, public room, and recreation and environmental education customers.

Financial Information

BLM-Eastern States' budget comes from funds appropriated to the Bureau by Congress. These funds are further allocated by program area.

BLM-Eastern States Appropriated Funding Level for Fiscal Year 2003 (Figures in thousands of dollars)

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Natural Resources | \$ 1,757 |
| Wild Horse and Burro Adoption and Compliance | 3,830 |
| Energy and Minerals | 5,642 |
| Lands and Realty | 3,978 |
| Wildland Fire | 793 |
| Cadastral Survey | 1,621 |
| GLO Records Automation | 1,472 |
| Acquisitions | 702 |
| Total Budget (BLM-appropriated funds) | \$19,795 |

Each year, BLM disburses payments in lieu of taxes to States containing Federal land and resources. These payments are determined according to a formula and are appropriated by Congress.

Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Fiscal Year 2003

| State | \$ PILT | Entitlement Acres |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Alabama | 388,858 | 795,732 |
| Arkansas | 2,834,030 | 3,286,787 |
| Connecticut | 28,976 | 12,028 |
| Delaware | 2,802 | 2,060 |
| District of Columbia | 17,792 | 6,963 |
| Florida | 2,753,535 | 2,539,832 |
| Georgia | 1,494,535 | 1,291,543 |
| Illinois | 609,112 | 478,219 |
| Indiana | 361,403 | 310,578 |
| Iowa | 247,484 | 181,961 |
| Kentucky | 1,523,542 | 1,247,190 |
| Louisiana | 311,938 | 757,822 |
| Maine | 197,212 | 116,959 |
| Maryland | 91,823 | 44,380 |
| Massachusetts | 67,175 | 40,032 |
| Michigan | 2,349,903 | 2,155,232 |
| Minnesota | 1,530,840 | 2,895,516 |
| Mississippi | 859,422 | 1,619,765 |
| Missouri | 2,133,582 | 2,036,809 |
| New Hampshire | 970,436 | 756,874 |
| New Jersey | 65,893 | 40,149 |
| New York | 86,806 | 59,318 |
| North Carolina | 2,348,077 | 1,712,665 |
| Ohio | 522,820 | 353,302 |
| Pennsylvania | 347,243 | 652,137 |
| South Carolina | 240,607 | 777,062 |
| Tennessee | 1,370,643 | 1,254,344 |
| Vermont | 495,805 | 397,124 |
| Virginia | 2,296,691 | 2,050,122 |
| West Virginia | 1,620,360 | 1,223,766 |
| Wisconsin | 483,880 | 1,352,283 |
| Total | 28,653,225 | 30,448,554 |

BLM-Eastern States Taxes



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
7450 Boston Boulevard
Springfield, Virginia 22153

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
Postage & Fees Paid
Bureau of Land Management
Permit No. G-76

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for private use \$300

*As Guardians of the Past and Stewards for the Future,
BLM-Eastern States is committed to sustaining the health,
diversity, and productivity of the public lands and resources
spanning the 31 States east of and bordering on the Mississippi River
for present and future generations.*

www.es.blm.gov